

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all earlier versions:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly for coupling between a power end and a fluid end of a high pressure reciprocating pump, the assembly comprising one or more clamping members arranged relative to a rod axis between the power end and the fluid end, each member having a first end adapted to grip the power end component, and a second end adapted to grip the fluid end component, and at least one member including one or more tensioning ~~means~~ devices, wherein said tensioning ~~means~~ device comprises a piston to provide a load in said tensioning ~~means~~ device orthogonal to said rod axis and thereby secure said components against release.

Claim 2 (original). A piston rod assembly as claimed in Claim 1, wherein, the clamping members are part cylindrical bodies which when arranged on the rod axis provide a substantially cylindrical body.

Claim 3 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~ wherein, there are two clamping members, an upper clamping member and a lower clamping member.

Claim 4 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ Claim 1 wherein, the first and second ends include a contact face parallel to the rod axis on an inner surface.

Claim 5 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in Claim 4, wherein each face provides a recess on the inner surface in which a portion of the power end component or fluid end component is located such that the component is gripped and held when the clamping members are brought together by the tensioning ~~means~~ device.

Claim 6 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ Claim 1 wherein each component end and the first/second end provide a knuckle joint.

Claim 7 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ wherein each component end and the first/second end provide a ball and socket.

Claim 8 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ Claim 1 wherein each piston is slideable within an hydraulic cylinder.

Claim 9 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ Claim 1 wherein each piston includes at least one stem adapted to receive a nut or a lock.

Claim 10 (original). A piston rod assembly as claimed in Claim 9 wherein each stem extends from one clamping member through an aperture in an adjacent clamping member, and wherein a nut engages the stem to couple the clamping members.

Claim 11 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in Claim 9 ~~or Claim 10~~ wherein a spring is arranged within the hydraulic cylinder to tension the said stem.

Claim 12 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 9 to 11~~ wherein the assembly includes non-rotational ~~means~~ arrangement for preventing rotation of said stem.

Claim 13 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in Claim 12 wherein the non-rotational ~~means~~ arrangement is a pin locating in a matching recess arranged parallel to the stem.

Claim 14 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 8 to 13~~ wherein a space is defined between a base of the cylinder and a base of the piston for accommodating hydraulic fluid.

Claim 15 (currently amended). A piston rod assembly as claimed in ~~any one~~  
~~of Claims 8 to 14~~ wherein the assembly includes a fluid inlet port to  
permit the input of hydraulic fluid to the cylinder.

Claim 16 (original). A piston rod assembly as claimed in Claim 15 wherein a  
chamber is included in the/each member to provide a common feed  
for hydraulic fluid to all cylinders within the member.